



USAID | MACEDONIA
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PRESS RELEASE

USAID supports the renovation of Joakim Krcoski primary school in Nikistane

USAID, a part of the U.S. mission in Macedonia, is investing in school renovations throughout the country. At the "Joakim Krcoski" Primary School in Nikistane, windows and doors were replaced. The successful ending of the project activity was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 10th. This project has contributed to an essential partnership between the municipality and the school community.

'By renovating this school, we have created a better and safer learning environment. We are also increasing the energy efficiency of this school so that the municipality will save money....money it can invest back into educational quality,' said Michael Fritz, USAID Mission Director.

By 2011, USAID will have renovated over 120 schools, which is nearly one-third of the primary schools in Macedonia. The renovation component of the USAID Primary Education Project supports the creation of better learning environments and decentralization of the responsibility for school facilities to municipal governments. The project also works to increase access to and use of information technology and to improve the quality of math and science education in Macedonian primary schools. All told, the American people are investing \$3,000,000 for school renovations in Macedonia.

The USAID Primary Education Project (PEP), implemented by the Academy for Educational Development (AED), works with all public primary schools in Macedonia. The project seeks to improve the quality of instruction and increase employment skills of students. The overall goal of the USAID Education Program is to strengthen education in Macedonia and to support decentralization efforts, as Macedonia seeks entrance to the European Union.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

The American people, through USAID, have invested nearly \$500 million in Macedonia since 1993. USAID is implementing projects that create jobs, reduce corruption, and prepare Macedonian students for the workforce. These initiatives improve the quality of life and support Macedonia's transition to a stable and prosperous democracy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>.